

## Appendix D – Beneficiary responses to report



**From:** Rich Heath <heath@wsu.edu>  
**To:** <jana.greer@wadnr.gov>  
**Date:** 12/06/2004 12:05:36 PM  
**Subject:** WSU Comments to IRC Re: Findings

Patty Henson requested that I send you WSU's comments on the IRC findings. Please see below.

It would be helpful if the IRC could expand on Finding number 8 in the report. Washington State University concurs with this finding that aggressive measures should be taken by DNR to diversify the assets that are held in the trusts. We believe the IRC's findings demonstrate that keeping a large percentage of the trust assets in timber land is not in the long-term best interests of the trust beneficiaries. WSU has advocated for some time that the lands in its Agricultural and Scientific trusts be diversified by trading timber lands for more productive commercial or irrigated agriculture properties. We also continue to advocate selling lands in the trust and having the proceeds placed in our Permanent Fund in order to achieve a better rate of return.

It would be helpful if the IRC could expand on Finding 8 as to the type of diversification it would recommend. Also, does the IRC have any recommendations on how quickly the trust assets should be diversified? In addition, what level of resources is the IRC recommending that DNR devote to the diversification effort?

WSU appreciates the opportunity to provide input on the IRC's findings, and also appreciates the efforts and work of the members of the IRC in studying the important issues that have been presented to them.

Rich  
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